

Amendment to the Claims

A complete list of all the presently or formerly pending claims in the application is provided below, with suitable headings to show the status of each claim.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling a medical device through voice commands, comprising:

 a medical device for performing at least one of interventional and diagnostic procedures;

 an input unit for receiving a voice command identifying a function associated with one of a diagnostic and interventional procedure, wherein the function includes movement of said medical device; and

 a control module for directing said medical device to perform the function based on said voice command.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said input unit is a microphone.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including a voice decoder for decoding said voice command into a basic signal.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3 further including a protocol translator for converting said basic signal into a signal code representing the function identified by said voice command.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4 wherein said control module includes a processing unit for directing said medical device to perform said function designated by said signal code.

6. (Original) The system of claim 4 further including a transmitter for transmitting said signal code to said control module.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said medical device is an interventional medical device.

8. (Currently amended) A system for controlling a medical device through voice commands, comprising:

a medical device for performing one of a medical diagnostic and interventional procedure;

a microphone for receiving a voice command identifying a function associated with one of said medical diagnostic and interventional procedure, wherein the function includes movement of said medical device;

a voice decoder for decoding said voice command into a basic signal; and

a protocol translator for converting said basic signal into a signal code representing said function identified by said voice command; and

a processing unit for directing said medical device to perform said function designated by said signal code.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said medical device is an interventional medical device.

10. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said signal code is an infrared (IR) signal code.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said signal code is a radio frequency (RF) signal code.

12. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said medical device is a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) device.

13. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said medical device is a computerized tomography imaging device.

14. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said medical device is a fluoroscopic imaging device.

15. (Original) The system of claim 8 further including:

a transmitter associated with said microphone, wherein said transmitter transmits said signal code, and

a receiver provided at said medical device for receiving said signal code, wherein said medical device and said microphone are remotely located from one another.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 further including a remote control, wherein said remote control includes a remote control receiver for receiving said signal code transmitted from said transmitter, and wherein said remote control transfers said signal code to said receiver provided at said medical device.

17. (Currently amended) A method of controlling a medical device through voice commands, comprising:

speaking a voice command into a microphone, said voice command identifying a function associated with one of a diagnostic and interventional procedure, wherein said function includes movement of the medical device;

decoding said voice command into a basic code;

converting said basic code into a signal code representing the function identified by said voice command;

transmitting said signal code to a receiver of a medical unit including the medical device; and

directing said medical device to perform said function designated by said signal code.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said transmitting step includes wirelessly transmitting said signal code to the receiver of the medical unit.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said transmitting step includes transmitting said signal code through infrared signals to the receiver of the medical unit.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said transmitting step includes transmitting said signal code through radio frequency signals to the receiver of the medical unit.

21. (Currently amended) A system for operating an interventional fluoroscopic imaging apparatus through voice commands, comprising:

an interventional fluoroscopic imaging device for performing one of a medical diagnostic and interventional procedure;

an input unit for receiving a voice command identifying a function associated with one of a diagnostic and interventional procedure, wherein the function includes movement of the said interventional fluoroscopic imaging device;

a voice decoder for decoding said voice command into a basic signal;

a protocol translator for converting said basic signal into a signal code representing said function identified by said voice command; and

a processing unit for directing said interventional fluoroscopic imaging apparatus to perform said function designated by said signal code.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein said input unit is a microphone.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21 further including:

a transmitter associated with said microphone, wherein said transmitter wirelessly transmits said signal code, and

a receiver provided at said medical device for receiving said signal code, wherein said medical device and said microphone are remotely located from one another.

24. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein said signal code is an infrared (IR) signal code.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein said signal code is a radio frequency (RF) signal code.

26. (Currently amended) A method of controlling an interventional fluoroscopic imaging device through voice commands, comprising:

speaking a voice command into an input unit, said voice command identifying a function associated with one of a diagnostic and interventional procedure, wherein the function includes movement of the interventional fluoroscopic imaging device;

decoding said voice command into a basic code;

converting said basic code into a signal code representing the function identified by said voice command;

transmitting said signal code to a receiver of a medical unit including the interventional fluoroscopic imaging device; and

directing the interventional fluoroscopic imaging device to perform said function designated by said signal code.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein said transmitting step includes wirelessly transmitting said signal code to the receiver of the medical unit.

28.(Original) The method of claim 26 wherein said transmitting step includes transmitting said signal code through infrared signals to the receiver of the medical unit.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein said transmitting step includes transmitting said signal code through radio frequency signals to the receiver of the medical unit.

30. (Currently amended) A system for operating an interventional medical device through voice commands, comprising:

an interventional medical device for performing one of a medical diagnostic and interventional procedure; and

a processing unit for directing said medical device to perform ~~a function~~ functions based on ~~a voice command~~ commands, wherein the functions include movement, positioning and imaging capabilities of said interventional medical device, said processing unit including:

a voice decoder for decoding said voice ~~command~~ commands into ~~a basic signal~~ signals; and

a protocol translator for converting said basic ~~signal~~ signals into a signal ~~code~~ codes representing said ~~function~~ functions identified by said voice ~~command~~ commands, said processing unit directing said medical device to perform ~~function~~ functions designated by said ~~code~~ codes.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein said interventional medical device is a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) device.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein said interventional medical device is a computerized tomography imaging device.

33. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein said interventional medical device is a fluoroscopic imaging device.

34. (New) The system of claim 1, further comprising additional functions including positioning and imaging characteristics of said medical device, wherein said

control module is configured to direct said medical device to perform the function and the additional functions based on said voice command and additional voice commands, respectively.

35. (New) The system of claim 8, further comprising additional functions including positioning and imaging characteristics of said medical device, wherein said control module is configured to direct said medical device to perform said function and said additional functions based on said voice command and additional voice commands, respectively.

36. (New) The method of claim 17, further comprising speaking additional voice commands into the microphone, wherein said additional voice commands identify additional functions including positioning and imaging characteristics of the medical device; and directing said medical device to perform said additional functions.